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HOMEMAKERS' CHAT

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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In the conversations about food nowadays, butter and meat share the spotlight together. But they don't have an exclusive right to the center of the stage. Some of the understudies for steaks and chops are having their chances at popularity now and probably will have more opportunity to win friends during the next few months.

As military activity speeds its pace on two battle fronts, our fighters need great quantities of meat. Buyers for the armed forces are the early birds when it comes to shopping for meat. They buy what they need up to 60 percent of the total supply of Choice, Good and Commercial beef which is slaughtered under Federal inspection. The rest then is moved into the meat markets for you to get your share.

In addition to supplying more meat for the men in uniform, there's another reason why the butcher's counters look so bare. If you've ever lived on a farm you know that meats, like fruits and vegetables, have their seasons of high low production. Well, not as many cattle are coming to market now as there were a few months ago. Usually pork production is good now, but the 25 percent cut in number of hogs, linked with the Army's heavy demands for pork, have cut heavily into the supply for civilians for the early months of 1945.

No one begrudges meat to our men in the service. They need it. The long hours at heavy, nerve-wracking work make it positively imperative that they eat appetizing, substantial food.

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